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		Filing Date	January 4, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Elliot Cooperstone
		Group Art Unit Number	3629
		Examiner Name	Jonathan P. Ouellette
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	3	Attorney Docket Number	16319-05986

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Dated:	November 1, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Elliot Cooperstone and H. Thach Pham
SERIAL NO.: 09/755,934
FILING DATE: January 4, 2001
TITLE: Method and System for Remotely Managing Business and Employee Administration Functions
EXAMINER: Jonathan P. Ouellette
GROUP ART UNIT: 3629
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 16319-05986

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Dated: November 1, 2004 By:


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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

SIR:

The following is in response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2004.

The Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 between Group I, which includes Claims 1-8 and 43-50, and Group II, which includes Claims 9-42 and 51.

Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement. In order for a restriction requirement to be proper, two criteria are required: (A) the inventions must be independent or distinct as claimed; and (B) there must be a serious burden on the examiner. MPEP 803.

In the present case, all claims relate to management of business and employee administration functions such as human resource and benefits packages. Applicants respectfully submit that because of the relationship of all claims to this central concept, the subject matter of the various claims herein can be searched and examined without undue burden.

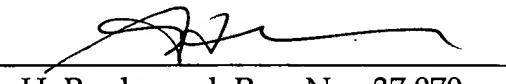
Applicants make no assertion herein as to whether or not the claims in Groups I and II are patentably distinct from one another.

Should the restriction requirement be maintained, Applicants hereby elect, with traverse, to prosecute in this patent application Group II, claims 9-42 and 51. Applicants request that claims 1-8 and 43-50 be retained in this patent application, unexamined, pending allowance of this patent application.

Favorable action is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
Elliot Cooperstone and H. Thach Pham

Dated: November 1, 2004

By: 
Amir H. Raubvogel, Reg. No.: 37,070
Fenwick & West LLP
801 California Street
Mountain View, CA 94041
Tel.: (650) 335-7276
Fax: (650) 938-5200